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International Affairs

Value of British Exports Reaches \$1.15 Billion

92AS1368N London KEYHAN in Persian 6 Aug 92 p 4

[Interview with a British trade official who heads the committee on British trade with Middle East countries by the press in Abu Dhabi; date not given]

[Text] Despite the apparent cloud on the horizon of diplomatic relations between Tehran and London and the issuance of the order for the expulsion of several Iranian diplomats from London in retaliation for the expulsion of the secretary of the British Embassy from Tehran, economic relations between the Islamic Republic and England continue to expand. According to reports received from trade sources in this country, it is expected that by the end of this year, the value of British exports to Iran will exceed \$1.1 billion. Simultaneously, the London press announced that British merchants and the owners of national industries are trying to participate on a large scale in the international trade exhibition in Tehran, which will be held in a few weeks. According to an Arabic-language newspaper, due to the unusual economic recession in England, this country is trying hard to gain access to the vast consumer markets in the oil-rich countries of the Middle East, increase the value of its imports to those countries, and consequently improve somewhat the unfavorable situation with regard to its foreign trade balance. An analysis of the foreign-trade statistics of England last year (1991) indicates that this country, by exporting various kinds of goods and commodities to Iran at a value of about \$1 billion, increased the value of its exports to the Islamic Republic by more than one-third compared to 1990. A British trade official some time ago took part in a press conference and told an Arabic-language newspaper reporter: "The reception of Iranian consumers to English goods has caused the exports of this country to the Islamic Republic to increase by about 20 percent in the first five months of this year compared to a similar period last year." The above-mentioned official added: "It is anticipated that by the end of this year, England will send 600 million pounds sterling (about \$1.1 billion) to the Iranian consumer markets." The British trade official, who according to a report by IRNA from Abu Dhabi heads the committee on British trade with Middle East countries, told reporters: "The British trade commission for the Middle East has devised special programs to attract the Iranian market." He described Iran among the Middle Eastern countries as very important in terms of the export of British goods and said: "While increasing her exports to the Islamic Republic, England has increased the export of these goods to Middle Eastern countries last year by about 5.4 percent compared to 1990." He added: "The value of exported English goods to Middle Eastern countries last year, despite the loss of the Iraqi market, amounted to more than \$11.5 billion." In another part of the press conference, the British trade official said: "In the developmental programs for trade relations between London and Middle Eastern countries, the markets of Iran, Turkey, and Egypt are particularly important." An international trade expert announced sometime ago that England will soon assume the fourth or fifth place among the trade partners of the Islamic regime in the world." The above-mentioned expert said: "At present, Germany is the largest exporter of goods to Iran. After Germany, Japan ranks second among the exporters of goods

to the Islamic Republic, and then France and Italy rank third and fourth, respectively."

The above-mentioned official added: "Even though in the past two years the United States, by removing the economic embargo on Iran and revoking trade sanctions against the Islamic regime, is increasing the value of its trade with that country, it is anticipated that England, bringing the value of its exports to Iran to the level of \$1.2 billion this year and purchasing crude oil and other traditional goods from that country, will increase the total value of its trade with Tehran to between \$1.8 billion to \$2.2 billion."

Commercial Trade With Switzerland Increasing

92AS1368P London KEYHAN in Persian 6 Aug 92 p 4

[Text] While the Islamic Republic last year exported traditional goods and products at a total value of \$51 million to Switzerland, that country received \$328 million in foreign currency from the Islamic Republic by exporting industrial machinery and drugs. A comparison between the value of Swiss exports to Iran and the value of the imports of that country from the Islamic Republic shows the negative foreign trade balance for Iran at a ratio of one to six. Statistics published by Bern foreign trade sources verify that in 1991 Switzerland exported various forms of medical equipment, drugs and chemicals, technical machinery, and other similar products to the Islamic Republic. In exchange, the Iranian exports to Switzerland in the period in question consisted of caviar, pistachio nuts, handwoven woolen carpets, and other traditional Iranian goods. The statistical report on the foreign trade of the Islamic Republic with Switzerland in 1991 states that more than 80 percent of the value of the traditional Iranian exports to that country, which amounts to more than \$400 million [as published], was due to the export of various kinds of handwoven carpets.

Trade Agreement Cooperation With Malaysia

92AS1428G Tehran KEYHAN-E HAVA'I in Persian
22 Jul 92 p 10

[Text] Tehran—21 Tir/12 Jul—Last Saturday Malaysia and Iran agreed to be export gates for one another to Southeast Asia and Central Asia, respectively.

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE reports from Kuala Lumpur that Abdullah Badawi, the Malaysian foreign minister and Mas'ud Rowghani-Zanjani, vice president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, participated in a joint news conference. They said that this agreement will give greater credibility to the meaningful cooperation between these two Islamic nations, whose commercial exchanges last year reached \$61.68 million.

At the conclusion of the third meeting of the Joint Iran-Malaysia Commission, Abdullah Badawi said: With reliance on Tehran, Malaysia will be able to reach the markets of the newly independent Central Asian republics, many of whom are landlocked and have no suitable port facilities.

Zanjani also said in a talk: Kuala Lumpur can act as a launching platform for Iran's exports, including copper, fruit, and dried fruits to the markets of Southeast Asia.

Zanjani, who had gone to Malaysia at the head of a 22-person high-level delegation to take part in the two

nations' joint commission meeting, added: This agreement can be a basic part of the long-term cooperation between the two nations.

The two sides also reached agreement on developing bilateral commercial cooperation as well as making efforts to invest in high-level technology relying on resources, agricultural projects, electronics projects, the production of vehicle parts and palm oil industries.

South Korea To Purchase Agricultural Products

92AS1428F Tehran KEYHAN-E HAVA'I in Persian
22 Jul 92 p 10

[Text] Tehran—IRNA—22 Tir/13 Jul—South Korea's ambassador in Tehran met with the minister of agriculture and expressed an interest on the part of his country's private sector to import Iran's agricultural crops.

Dr. 'Isa Kalantari, minister of agriculture, welcomed the Korean ambassador's proposal at this meeting, and expressed Iran's willingness to study it.

Expelled Workers Go to Korea From Japan

92AS1368L London KEYHAN in Persian 6 Aug 92 p 9

[Text] Following the long investigation into the exit permits of Iranian workers from Japan, in the past two weeks, a large number of unemployed, wandering Iranian workers in Tokyo attacked the orchards around Tokyo, ate as much as they could, and took a certain amount as food supplies to their residences. Following this attack by the hungry and wandering unemployed Iranian workers, the police pursued them and arrested and jailed a number of them.

Another report indicates that the unemployed Iranian workers, who get their exit permits with difficulty, go to South Korea and the sheikdoms of the Persian Gulf for new illegal work.

According to reports by informed individuals in Tokyo, in April 1992, the number of Iranians who resided in Japan as tourists but were in fact there to work reached 35,000. Considering the bad economic situation in Japan and the increase in unemployment, the Government of Japan prevented illegal work by foreign workers, and consequently, Iranian tourists in Japan were also subjected to deportation from that country. Since April, more than 12,000 Iranians have left Japan, and more than 7,000 others are awaiting their exit permits from that country.

In this connection, the minister of construction jihad and the former minister of labor of the Islamic regime had previously stressed that Iranians go to Japan and bring to Iran advanced technology and dollars. Experience has shown that neither advanced technology nor dollars flowed into Iran. Instead, a group of rebellious and at times corrupted youths returned to the country.

An observer in Tokyo wrote that the unemployed Iranians who want to leave Japan spend their nights and days in the parks, cinemas, or bathhouses, and because the police seriously prevent their illegal working, in order to fill their stomachs, this group engages in theft from stores and shops, and some are also involved in the buying and selling of narcotics.

The same observer said: On Sundays, "Yuyuki" Park is where Iranians gather, and where the dealers of death also set up their shops and sell narcotics of various kinds that they weigh with their pocket-size scales. The Japanese police have no control over this park on Sundays, and narcotics are provided to the dealers of death by the Japanese mafia.

Regional Affairs

Seventeen Protocols Signed With Turkmenistan

92AS1428B Tehran KEYHAN-E HAVA'I in Persian
22 Jul 92 p 1

[Text] Gorgan—KEYHAN Correspondent—14 Tir/16 Jul—An economic protocol valued at more than \$30 million was signed between the Gorgan Chamber of Commerce, Mazandaran industrial owners and merchants of the republic of Turkmenistan.

During its stay in Gorgan, the 12-member commercial delegation of the Republic of Turkmenistan supervised by Salimof, the chief of this republic's chamber of commerce, which had gone to this city to develop trade in the areas of clothing, foodstuffs, factory products as well as border traffic by travelers via the Inchehborun international border bridge, signed contracts with officials and industrial leaders in the Province of Mazandaran.

This commercial delegation also met with the governor general of Mazandaran and discussed matters of mutual interest.

Concerning the talks that were held and the protocol that was signed, the chief of the Gorgan Chamber of Commerce said: The talks between the Turkmenistan delegation, the Chamber of Commerce and the industrial managers of Mazandaran led to the signing of 17 protocols.

Tajiks View IRI Television Enthusiastically

92AS1428J Tehran KEYHAN-E HAVA'I in Persian
29 Jul 92 p 3

[Text] Tehran—3 Tir/21 Jul—The chief of Tajikistan Radio and Television asked Iran for technical assistance to rebuild this republic's radio and television.

The correspondent from the newspaper JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI reports that Mir Baba Mir Rahim announced at a press conference: The Voice and Visage of the Republic of Tajikistan needs to be 80 percent rebuilt, and in this regard technical assistance from the Islamic Republic of Iran is necessary.

He noted that at the end of his trip to Tehran a treaty will be signed to increase cooperation with Iran. He said: This treaty will cover areas of common interest in cultural, social, and religious affairs between the people of the two countries. Likewise, joint cooperation will be expanded in the areas of technical education and planning.

He added: We want to open field offices for the Voice and Visage of Tajikistan as soon as possible in Tehran and Mashhad. When this is done, cooperation between the radio and television of the two nations will be greater and thus the two nations will have a greater awareness of one another.

In conclusion he said: Iran is making the programs it produces available to Tajikistan, and this programs have been welcomed greatly by the people of this republic.

Young Azaris Take Back Old Mosque in Baku

92AS1428C Tehran KEYHAN-E HAVA'I in Persian
22 Jul 92 p 1

[Text] Tehran—KEYHAN-E HAVA'I news service—27 Tir/18 July—Azarbaijani youths gathered in an old mosque in Baku, which had been converted to a carpet museum under the communist regime, and held a funeral service. In so doing they persuaded government forces to give this mosque back to the Muslims.

According to reports received, following a clash between Azarbaijani police and Hoseyni mourners in the city of Baku, the minister of culture of this republic promised within 15 days to turn a mosque, which the communist regime had converted to a carpet museum, back to the Muslims to use for prayers and religious services.

Azari youths, who had gathered in this mosque to hold seventh-day mourning services for the joyous martyrdom of martyrs, were surrounded by 1,000 Azarbaijani police, and after they were ordered by the police to leave the mosque, they clashed with the police and chanted "Hoseyn, Hoseyn is our slogan, martyrdom is our pride."

Islam Declared Official Religion of Nakhichevan

92AS1428D Tehran KEYHAN-E HAVA'I in Persian
22 Jul 92 p 3

[Text] Tabriz—KEYHAN Correspondent—21 Tir/12 Jul—With the arrival of the days to commemorate the memory of Imam Hoseyn (peace be upon him), the president of the independent republic of Nakhichevan declared that Islam is the only official religion of this republic.

Heydar 'Aliof, president of the republic of Nakhichevan, attended a gathering of the people of this republic, who were being allowed for the first time in 70 years to celebrate the Hoseyni 'Ashura days of mourning. In a speech he said: I declare Islam to be the official religion of this republic, and I thereby show my adherence to the commands and laws of Islam. At the same time Nakhichevan television interrupted its normal programming to broadcast the epic truth about Karbala and the rites mourning the death of Aba 'Abdollah al-Hoseyn (peace be upon him) and his companions, which were officially held for the first time in the mosques and passion play theaters of this republic.

Likewise the Muslims of the Republic of Azarbaijan conducted similar rites in the cities of Maku, Langaran, and Astara to commemorate the epic memory of Karbala.

It is worth mentioning that after 70 years of communist rule the enslaved Muslims of the newly independent Central Asian republics are still leaning more and more towards Islam, and the revival of Muslim rites, customs, and traditions in these republics has become a vital issue.

Internal Affairs

Cities Grow Six-Fold in Last 30 Years

92AS1353O London KEYHAN in Persian 30 Jul 92 p 4

[Text] While the food produced inside the country now feeds 50 percent of the population with difficulty, the rapid increase in the population in the years ahead will bring the country up against severe food shortages and make it more dependent than before on foreign food sources. Based on a statistical report from the Iran Statistics Center, the nation's population, which was no more than 16 million in the year 1330 [21 Mar 1951-20 Mar 1952], has reached 65 million in the current year and it is expected that in 20 years the number of residents of Iran will be more than 100,000.

'Esa Kalantari, the Islamic regime's minister of agriculture, who participated recently in a population seminar, discussed the problems associated with food shortages and providing food for the population. He said: "Assuming that current consumption in the country remains stable, in two more years the people of Iran will need about 14 million tons of wheat, 1 million tons of red meat, 3 million tons of rice, 1 million tons of vegetable shortening, 1.5 million tons of sugar cubes and sugar, and 4.5 million tons of milk. These figures will consume half the investments and efforts being made for growth and development."

This official cited rural emigration to the cities as one of the problems causing insecurity with regard to food.

During the last 35 years the percent of the population living in urban areas in Iran has gone from 31.2 percent to 57 percent. The Islamic regime's minister of agriculture discussed the problem of unemployment in the Islamic Republic. He said: Based on statistics taken in the year 1370 [21 Mar 1991-20 Mar 1992], only 22 percent of the people in our country were employed. In other words, 78 percent of the population is dependent, and this is also considered an element of food insecurity. Yet the world's average employment rate is 44.75 percent.

While the population seminar was being held, Dr. Asadpur, the Islamic Republic's general manager of population affairs and family formation in the Ministry of Health, Treatment and Medical Education, announced that if the present population growth trend continues, within 20 years 500,000 housing units and 500,000 classrooms will have to be built annually.

The official said: "In the future, with unbridled population growth, the developing nations will be facing food shortages. During his press conference he warned that currently 13 percent of the nation's population is unemployed, and to solve this problem 600,000 new jobs must be created annually."

The general manager in the Islamic Republic's Ministry of Health, Treatment and Medical Education continued his remarks. He said: "In the last 90 years the nation's population has increased six-fold." He added: "In the last 30 years the urban population has increased six-fold, while the growth in urban services has been quite negligible."

Management Costs Attached to Seized Goods*92AS1300L London KEYHAN in Persian 23 Jul 92 p 1*

[Text] To return property that has been confiscated from individuals, an annual 5-percent "management fee" will be collected. The amount of money required to be paid to the institution that has managed it is determined by multiplying 5 percent of the value of the above by the number of years that the property has been managed. In any case, according to a circular letter sent by the Revolution Prosecutor's Office to the concerned organizations, "the minimum management fee is 25 percent of the total value of the property."

This circular letter, issued in Aban 1370 [23 Oct-21 Nov 1991] and only recently reaching KEYHAN, also states that all the expenditures of the managing organization to "keep or invest to develop the managed property will be deducted prior to the payment of the management fee."

If the expenditures were in foreign currency, the exact foreign currency that has been spent will be calculated and collected at the "open market price of the time of transfer."

The circular letter also states: "In cases when the owner of the property has no proof of payment of religious fees, steps must be taken to collect one-fifth of the interest on businesses in addition to one-fifth of whatever is connected with prohibited property (as the case may be), provided it exceeds one ordinary residential house, a place of business, and common home furnishings."

Foundation Places Seized Land on Sale*92AS1300C London KEYHAN in Persian 23 Jul 92 p 4*

[Text] The Foundation for the Oppressed and Self-Sacrificers of the Islamic Republic has put up for auction dozens of plots of land belonging to the people in various areas of Mazandaran Province. The plots of land for sale are in Gonbad, Gorgan, Bandar Gaz, Bandar Shah, 'Aliabad, Babolsar, Nowshahr, Chalus, Kalardasht, Sari, Tonokabon, Izdeh, Pelur, and several other areas. According to the communiques published by the above-mentioned foundation, the number of plots of land has reached 99. The communique of the Foundation for the Oppressed includes specifications on the lands to be auctioned, including size, registered lot number, base price, and address. Buyers are asked to send their offers to the offices of the foundation in various parts of Mazandaran Province by the end of Tir [22 Jul] of this year.

The base price—which is the lowest bid—for each plot of land, runs from the highest price of 32 million toman (for a plot of land in Kalardasht) to less expensive lands, under a million toman.

The Foundation for the Oppressed, the Shahid Foundation, the Foundation for the Implementation of the Imam's Decree, and several other organizations affiliated with the Imam's regime in Tehran in the past few years have auctioned large numbers of houses, apartments, orchards, villas, stores, and real estate belonging to the people, which have been confiscated by the regime, and have gained thousands of millions of toman by selling them.

Foreign Loans To Go for Airport Construction

92AS1353L London KEYHAN in Persian 30 Jul 92 p 4

[Text] To carry out construction operations and to equip Tehran's second international airport and the nation's other airports, the Islamic Republic intends to obtain \$150 million in credit and loans from European countries and international monetary institutions. The loans for implementing the above projects will be repaid either by making the airport equipment and facilities available to the lenders in the form of "buyback" arrangements, or, according to the chief of the National Airline Organization, out of this organization's revenues and revenues derived from the operation of Tehran's second international airport.

'Ali Mohammad Nurian, deputy minister of roads and transportation and chief of the National Airline Organization, who recently went to Mashhad to inspect the equipment at the airport, told news reporters that the European nations are prepared to invest up to \$800 million in the project to create Tehran's second international airport and to procure its technical equipment.

He also announced that in addition to the above investments, the European nations will also invest \$350 million to equip and provide navigational aids for the rest of Iran's airports. Without naming the European countries, or stating the conditions under which these loans will be made to the Islamic regime, he said: The foreign investments in equipping the nation's airports will be repaid in the form of reciprocal sales (buybacks) or out of the revenues of the National Airline Organization and revenues derived from the operation of Tehran's second international airport. An informed official told KEYHAN's reporter that many companies producing airport implements and equipment, such as the British Telegram Company and its affiliated production and service organizations, have signed numerous confidential contracts with the Islamic regime, in order on that basis to procure the major part of the technical and navigational equipment needed by Iran's airports.

This official discussed some of the Islamic regime's secret and unannounced agreements with foreign companies. He added: Currently many foreign companies, by imposing their conditions on the leaders of the Islamic regime, have taken over Iran's consumer markets with second- and third-rate goods produced in other countries, and based on reports published by statistical sources, in addition to importing various kinds of goods and services for which it paid \$12 to \$15 billion in foreign exchange, the Islamic regime has imported significant quantities of goods and services on credit.

The informed official said: The Islamic regime now has more than \$25 billion in foreign debt. This includes credit transactions, buybacks, loans, advance sales of oil and petrochemical products, and mid- and long-term commercial credit arrangements.

Regime's Rental Unit Project for 10 Billion Rials

92AS1428R Tehran KEYHAN-E HAVA'I in Persian
5 Aug 92 p 3

[Text] Tehran—6 Mordad/28 Jul—In the First Five-Year Economic Development Plan a plan was set forth called the Rental Housing Construction Project to be carried out in

heavily populated cities such as Tehran, with credits exceeding 10 billion rials (2 billion rials per year).

This project was to be implemented with the support of the government and the cooperation of the banks, but this has not yet taken place.

Engineer 'Abbas Rezazadeh, director of housing planning for the Islamic Revolution Housing Foundation, gave an interview to IRNA. In announcing the above, he added: This project was approved by the appropriate officials, and the Islamic Revolution Housing Foundation proposed building 20,000 housing units per year.

Rezazadeh said: This project was intended for new families with between two and four members, and each housing unit was to have 60 square meters of foundation.

He said that the goal of this project was to help regulate rents, to create an opportunity for housing applicants, and to create an opportunity to obtain permanent housing.

Rezazadeh added: In this project, 25 percent of the initial capital was to have been provided by the government, and the remaining 85 percent [as published] was to have been provided through bank participation at the staff rate of 12 percent.

He noted that the need for housing in the nation's Five-Year Economic Development Plan is about 5,000 units. He said: This project can keep housing pressure at a normal level.

Rezazadeh noted: The intended period of time for each family to live in these units is about five years on the average, and this will be useful for strengthening the foundation of every family.

Carpets Make Up Bulk of Nonoil Exports

92AS1353N London KEYHAN in Persian 30 Jul 92 p 4

[Text] Last year (1370 [21 Mar 1991-20 Mar 1992]) merchants and exporters of hand-woven Iranian carpets exported significant quantities of carpets, valued at an estimated \$1 billion. In view of the fact that the total value of Iran's nonoil exports last year was \$2.6 billion, the export of hand-woven carpets valued at \$1 billion shows that the export of this traditional product still makes up a major part of Iran's exports. Based on statistics published by the Tehran regime's Ministry of Commerce, during the year mentioned more than 40 percent of the foreign exchange obtained from Iran's nonoil exports came from the export of various types of hand-woven wool carpets; about 26 percent of it came from the export of agricultural goods including pistachios, dried fruits, fresh fruits, and vegetables and other similar products; about 12 percent of it came from industrial products and goods produced inside the country; and the rest came from the export of other types of export goods such as ores, hides, dates, caviar, and similar goods.

Tribal Affairs Organization's Development Plans Viewed

92AS1308D Tehran ABRAR in Persian 4 Jul 92 p 9

[Text] With 20 billion rials in credit, three large projects in animal husbandry, pastures and infrastructure development are being carried out in the nation's tribal areas this year.

IRNA's correspondent reports that Dr. Qanbari, deputy minister of the reconstruction crusade and chief of the Tribal Affairs Organization, noted that this year's credits for the Tribal Affairs Organization have doubled over the figure for last year. He added: The project to develop the tribal areas will continue this year with more than 5 billion rials credit.

He added: Studies for this project began last year and have been completed in the provinces of Kerman, Khuzestan, Ilam, and Fars and the work is now being carried out.

Dr. Qanbari, speaking at a gathering of officials of tribal affairs offices in Khorasan Province, said that the aim of implementing the aforementioned project was to identify the potential and the way of life of the tribal native peoples for the purpose of raising tribal incomes and providing them with better services by linking animal husbandry, agriculture, and industry through the use of new technology.

Continuing, he discussed the activities of the tribal cooperative unions such as their delivery of goods and purchases of products done by 200 companies and 2,000 permanent and itinerant sales outlets. He said: A project to fatten 8,000 head of tribal livestock is also being carried out by these unions in the current year.

Concerning the arming of the tribes, he said: This work is being done by the tribal mobilization forces, and the necessary steps will be taken to organize it.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Mehdizadeh, general manager of the Khorasan Tribal Affairs Office, said: Since its inception this office has carried out 1,500 development projects in the tribal areas of this province, and 40 other projects are under way this year.

New Peykan Model Assembly To Begin Soon

92AS1427J London KEYHAN in Persian 13 Aug 92 p 4

[Text] The Iran-Khodrow Automobile Assembly Industries will start the sale of the Peykan 1600 model in Tehran and other cities in six weeks. The Iran-Khodrow Company is supposed to charge buyers 1 million tomans for every car.

Shadru, the minister of heavy industries of the Islamic Republic, made the above announcement and said: Offering Peykan cars at 1 million tomans will cause a reduction in the price of existing cars on the market by 40 percent.

The above-mentioned official, who participated in a press conference, told reporters: "Eighty production and industrial units in the country will cooperate in the manufacturing of the Peykan 1600 with the Iran-Khodrow Company, and at the present 90 percent of the parts of this kind of car are produced domestically."

Price of Poultry Rises 60 Tomans Per Kg

92AS1427O London KEYHAN in Persian 13 Aug 92 p 4

[Text] The price of chicken that was sold to the consumer at 160 tomans a kg until a month ago has now reached 220 tomans a kg. Various explanations are given about this unusual increase in price, given the present criteria in Iran.

The head of the board of directors of Tehran chicken growers regards this increase as the result of "the traditional

chicken production units not being offered banking facilities and the absence of government agreements in principle to import modern equipment."

The general manager of fodder procurement, production, and distribution says that there is a shortage of edible seeds, and the Central Bank does not provide the needed foreign currency to import it. In accordance with the ratification of the Economic Council, the open market price of chicken should be tied to the use of competitive foreign currency by chicken growers; however, no competitive foreign currency is given now, and there is no floating foreign currency either. But the Central Bank says that it has met "all its commitments" in this connection. He states that the Central Bank does not give foreign currency directly for the procurement and distribution of fodder, but instead puts this foreign currency at the disposal of that company through the Ministry of Construction Jihad. Subsequently, the above-mentioned ministry must respond to the above-mentioned company.

Prices Rise Sharply With Elimination of Subsidies

92AS1427D London KEYHAN in Persian 13 Aug 92 pp 1, 3

[Text] Rowghani-Zanjani, the head of the Plan [and Budget] Organization and spokesman for the Supreme Economic Council, announced that the "economic mobilization" booklets will immediately be eliminated and devoid of any value or credit.

These booklets were necessary for the purchase of rationed government goods, which were given government subsidies. The elimination of the mobilization booklets is directly related to the government policy of gradually eliminating subsidies and moving towards consolidating the foreign currency rates. Instead of subsidizing goods, the government now follows a policy of pricing.

He mentioned this as the "policy of economic modification" and said that this policy will be implemented in two phases. The first phase, which will be implemented immediately, is that the Consumer Protection Agency will set the prices of goods produced with "competitive foreign currency" (60 tomans to the dollar) and announce them to the concerned ministry. (Which ministry? It is not clear.) Then that ministry will begin negotiations with the concerned production unit. If there is an agreement, the item will be offered on the market at that price. Otherwise, "based on the value of production and reasonable profit," a new price will be set for the item, and the "related ministry" will pay the difference (between the price that the Consumer Protection Agency has announced and the price that the ministry obtains in negotiations with the production unit) to the Consumer Protection Agency as a subsidy.

The second phase will start at the point that the Plan and Budget Organization offers the Cabinet for approval a bill prepared as the "Consumer Protection Law." According to this bill, all goods that are produced with government, competitive, and floating foreign currency will be subject to pricing.

At the present time, many producers, calculating that soon the rate of foreign currency will be consolidated, have reduced the availability of goods and have added greatly to

their prices. The press conference of the head of the Plan and Budget Organization has caused the reduction in or lack of goods offered on the market and the increase in prices to be felt more tangibly.

In one week, the prices on the Iranian markets have increased by 30 to 50 percent. But Rowghani-Zanjani said, "The government will not consolidate the rates so soon," and added that "economic modification" will be implemented "step by step and gradually."

Housing Exhausts 60 Percent of Income

92AS1353M London KEYHAN in Persian 30 Jul 92 p 4

[Text] Housing costs in Iran are quite high, and home ownership is no more than a dream for the middle class. For families living in Iran's urban areas, sometimes up to 60 percent of their income is spent on rent, and even low-income home owners who do not pay rent have little room left for savings. Rather, they bear the burden of some form of long-term debt.

The above is part of a report entitled "A Look at the Quality of Housing in Iran" published recently in a Tehran newspaper.

The above report mentions the continuous and rapid rise of rents in Tehran and the other municipalities. It says: Based on available statistics, housing costs went up from 21 percent of a family's total annual expenses in 1354 [21 Mar 1975-20 Mar 1976] to 32 percent in 1356 [21 Mar 1977-20 Mar 1978]. Unofficial figures on the housing percentage of a family's income in recent years show that housing costs in Iran are more than all the European, Asian, and American nations.

Continuing his article, the writer of the above adds: Based on statistics that have been obtained, in the year 1365 [21 Mar 1986-20 Mar 1987] about 25 percent of Iran's urban homes and 42 percent of its rural homes are made of adobe, clay and wood, and for rural homes this figure reaches more than 54 percent.

Industrial Production Up 139 Percent

92AS1428Q Tehran KEYHAN-E HAVA'I in Persian
5 Aug 92 p 4

[Text] Tehran—10 Mordad/1 Aug—During the previous month of Khordad [22 May-21 Jun] production by the nation's electric and electronic industries increased between 31 and 139 percent.

The newspaper KEYHAN writes that in the first three months of the current year [21 Mar-21 Jun] production of various types of refrigerators, freezers, and water and electric meters was as follows:

Refrigerators and freezers, 79,000 units with a 33-percent increase.

Various types of water meters, 151,000 units with a 49-percent increase.

Various types of electrical meters, 136,000 units, or twice the amount produced in the same period last year.

Agriculture Census Figures Published

92AS1356I Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 5 Jul 92 p 4

[Text] Economic Service—The detailed results of the general agricultural census covering all of Iran for the year 1367 [21 Mar 1988-20 Mar 1989] have been published by the Iranian Statistics Center.

The Public Relations Office of the Iranian Statistics Center reports that these results have been obtained based on the first general agricultural census in the year 1367 with results taken from all families and institutions involved in agriculture (cultivation, orchard keeping, animal husbandry, poultry, honey bees, silk worms, and fish), and a total of 3.3 million agricultural operations were polled.

Based on this census, 4.9 million hectares of the nation's lands are under irrigated cultivation, 5.8 million hectares are being cultivated with dry farming, 1.1 million hectares are being used for orchards and seedling beds, and with 5.4 million hectares of fallow land, this makes a total of 17.2 million hectares of agricultural land in the country. These lands, 27 percent of which are confiscated plots, belong to 2.8 million agricultural units, each less than one hectare, and 1.0 percent of which are 50 hectares or larger. Overall, the average size per agricultural unit with land is 6.1 hectares.

The national production of wheat is 5.9 million tons, which is grown on 1.8 million hectares of irrigated land and 3.6 million hectares of dry-farmed land by 1.8 million agricultural units. The average production per hectare on irrigated lands is 1,837 kg, and it is 718 kg on dry-farmed land. Khorasan Province with 739,000 tons of wheat production; East Azarbaijan Province, with 633,000 tons; and Fars Province with 563,000 tons; are the provinces producing the most wheat.

This public relations office added: The situation for the nation's other basic crops this year is as follows:

- 1.22 million tons of paddy rice, grown on 432,000 hectares with a production rate of 2,828 kg per hectare.
- 2.64 million tons of barley grown on 870,000 hectares of irrigated lands with a production rate of 1,905 kg per hectare, and on 1.3 million hectares of dry-farmed land with a production rate of 732 kg per hectare.
- 3.6 million tons of sugar beets grown on 144,000 hectares of land with a production rate of 25.4 tons per hectare.
- 304,000 tons of unginned cotton grown on 126,000 hectares of irrigated lands with a production rate of 2,030 kg per hectare and on 30,000 hectares of dry-farmed land with a production rate of 25.4 tons per hectare.
- 922,000 tons of potatoes on 83,000 hectares of land with a production rate of 11.1 tons per hectare.

The other important agricultural and orchard crops produced include 183,000 tons of chick peas and beans; 66,000 tons of lentils; 81,000 tons of soy beans; 30,000 tons of sunflower seeds; 930,000 tons of watermelon; 484,000 tons of melons; 2.7 million tons of alfalfa, sainfoin, and clover; 581,000 tons of feed corn; 933,000 tons of apples; 409,000

tons of oranges; 44,000 tons of almonds; 45,000 tons of pistachios; 174,000 tons of dates; and 861,000 tons of grapes.

This public relations office also added:

During the year 1367, for the annual crops 716,000 tons of nitrogen fertilizer and 848,000 tons of phosphate fertilizers were used, and for the orchards and seedling beds 96,000 tons of nitrogen fertilizers and 121,000 tons of phosphate fertilizers were used. In wheat cultivation, 79 percent of the wheat-growing units, comprising 75 percent of the area under wheat cultivation and 86 percent of the production, consumed at least one of the types of chemical fertilizer.

The area of cultivated land plowed by tractor during the year was 9.1 million hectares, and this is about 89 percent of the land under cultivation. This percentage has a direct relationship to the size of the area under cultivation, and it varies from the 53 percent for land cultivated by small units, up to 93 percent for land cultivated by very large units. Two million units made use of tractors, 12 percent of whom

owned all or part of the tractors they used. The use of combines and tillers was reported by 569,000 and 419,000 units respectively.

At least one of the five types of livestock raised in the country is bred by 2.4 million units. The 1.7 million units raising small livestock (sheep and goats) keep a total of 41 million head of sheep and 22 million head of goats, and about half of these units have both types of livestock. The number of cattle in the country has been calculated at 6.4 million head, belonging to 1.6 million units, and the numbers of buffalo and camels were reported as 290,000 and 86,000 head, respectively.

In conclusion, this public relations office added: Based on the results obtained from the 1367 national agricultural census, there are 820,000 beehives of the new type and 272,000 beehives of the old type in the country with average production of 8.2 kg of honey per beehive of the new type and 3.4 kg of honey per hive of the old type. There are 56,000 units in the country keeping silkworms producing 2,537 tons of cocoons, as well as 2,401 units producing food fish with 4,766 hectares of pools or canals for breeding fish.

MILITARY

F-5 Pilot Training Classes Graduate

92AS1356D Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 1 Jul 92 p 13

[Text] Shiraz—ETTELA'AT Correspondent—Graduation ceremonies for the 9th, 10th, and 11th F-5 pilot training classes in the Shiraz air district and the 7th F-5 flight instructor's class at the pursuit base in Dezful were held at the Shiraz air base, attended by the Air Force commander of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

At these ceremonies, also attended by the acting Navy commander of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran and a group of Fars Province military and police commanders, General Baratpur, commander of the Shiraz Air District, presented a report. He said: "The pursuit brigade in this area recently took first place in three logistic seminars between the maintenance battalions of the F-5 pursuit bases and also in the national air-to-ground firing competition held at the fourth pursuit base in Dezful."

The commander of the Shiraz air district discussed the presentation of new projects by air force specialists. He said: "An Air Force specialist recently submitted a proposal to convert ordinary gasoline engines to turbine engines, and this proposal is considered a striking innovation internationally."

As the ceremony continued the Air Force commander praised the efforts of the Shiraz Air District personnel and the fourth pursuit base in Dezful. He said: "The establishment of training classes despite the many difficulties shows the determination of the Air Force to achieve self-sufficiency."

He then discussed the complete service of the P-3-F long-range maritime reconnaissance aircraft by domestic specialists. He said: "This aircraft is an advanced maritime reconnaissance plane whose parts are not available on free international markets because of America's supervision and monopoly. We also faced problems with three of this aircraft's parts, which have now been solved."

At the end of his talk the Air Force commander said: "International imperialism tried to keep these aircraft from flying, but today all of our nation's P-3-F aircraft have been completely serviced and we now have programs to change the systems of these aircraft, and when these programs are implemented the planes will fly."

At the end of the ceremony, three of the long-range maritime reconnaissance aircraft made successful flights in the presence of the Air Force commander.

Health Field Inadequacies Threaten Public

92AS1368O London KEYHAN in Persian 6 Aug 92 p 4

[Text] The constant increase in population and the financial and manpower restrictions in Iran in the area of health and health services has caused the country to face severe shortages in terms of the ratio of physicians, dentists, midwives, nurses, health-care workers, physical therapists, and hospital beds to the population. The issue of shortages in the country in the area of health and treatment services was examined by experts some time ago in a seminar at the Hamadan Medical Sciences University. In this seminar, the technical vice president of the university presented statistics on death in the country, especially child deaths, and, addressing the participants in the meeting, said: "While based on the standards put forward by the World Health Organization for developing countries there should exist one physician for every 1,000 people to offer services, in Iran this ratio is one physician for every 3,500 people."

He continued: "According to statistics presented by the Plan and Budget Organization and their comparison to the standards offered by the World Health Organization as well as the present conditions, the existing statistics and shortages are as follows:

(A) Ratio of physicians to the population, one to 1,000; the existing statistics, 16,950; and the shortage, 32,750.

(B) Ratio of dentists to the population, one for every 10,000; existing statistics, 2,600; and the shortage, 2,370.

(C) Ratio of midwives to the population, one to 500; the existing statistics, 2,787; and the shortage, 9,662.

(D) Ratio of nurses to the population, one to 350; the existing statistics, 9,500; and the shortage, 132,600.

(E) Ratio of health-care workers to the population, one to 85; the existing statistics, 22,000; and the shortage, 562,700.

(F) Ratio of physical therapists to the population, one to 2,000; the existing statistics, 8,427; and the shortage, 16,352.

(G) Ratio of hospital beds to the population, one to 25; the existing statistics, 71,567; and the shortage, 137,232 beds.

Shortage of Medicine Persists Despite Price Rise

92AS1300G London KEYHAN in Persian 23 Jul 92 p 2

[Text] Drugs, especially vital drugs, continue to be scarce, even after their prices increased in some cases to five times their previous prices.

Several weeks ago, without any advance warning to the people, the Ministry of Health, Treatment, and Medical Education suddenly increased the price of 487 drugs. The increase in the price of drugs at least gave hope to patients and the afflicted that the shortage of drugs would be eliminated. But reports in Tehran newspapers indicate that even though prices have increased, shortages continue to exist. Especially in regards to certain necessary serums, heart medications, and pain medication, shortages are apparent.

A pharmacist said: "It is not easy for the people to swallow the increase in the price of drugs, sometimes up to five times, especially in the southern part of the city, and there

have been many cases of people giving up on buying the drug they need." He said: "One of the reasons for the shortage of drugs is that the drug manufacturing factories in the country do not work at a balanced capacity. He pointed out that many of the pharmacies in the country sell mostly beauty supplies, because not only is distribution more organized, but also the price, no matter what it is, does not cause quarrels with customers."

In spite of the increases in the price of drugs, it seems that the producers still do not consider these prices "appropriate" and have decreased production. This is one reason for the shortage of drugs even after the prices increased.

It is worthy of note that several days before the price of drugs increased, Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the president of the Islamic Republic, visited the large serum-manufacturing factory of Razi and said that production in this factory must increase and the payment of subsidies for drugs must continue.

Patients' Lives Endangered by Lack of Medicine

92AS1427N London KEYHAN in Persian 13 Aug 92 p 4

[Text] The shortage of various kinds of vital medicine was not resolved by the Islamic regime raising the price, and at the present time, patients throughout the country face shortages of medicine. The shortage of medicine, especially regarding patients with heart and kidney diseases or ulcers, is seriously felt, and according to reports from Tehran and other cities, this problem has endangered the lives of thousands of patients.

KEYHAN newspaper, published in Tehran, some time ago published a report entitled "The Shortage and Improper Distribution of Kidney Medicines Threatens the Lives of Thousands of Patients" and wrote: "Throughout the country, 4,000 kidney dialysis and 2,000 (kidney) transplant patients have been faced with shortages of medicine for some time and complain about its improper distribution."

The above-mentioned newspaper added: "Dialysis solution is one of the essential drugs in dialysis. Recently, because of the shortage in some centers, the hours for dialysis have been reduced from five to two hours. This will result in the failure to remove all the toxic substances from of the patients' blood and will have ill effects on them."

The above-mentioned report states that in addition to the shortage of "dialysis solution," other medicines, such as "(sandimaden) drops" are also hard to find, and patients suffer as a result. The general manager of the Society for the Protection of Kidney Patients announced early last week that at the present time, kidney patients face a shortage of about 20 drugs they need.

Among this kind of medicine, he described the shortage of "(imuran)" tablets and "(alumbim) hydroxide" syrup as dangerous to the patients and said: "The pharmaceutical officials in the country can, with the statistics that exist about such patients," estimate their annual use of medicine and provide them without any problem for the patients.

Dead Abandoned Due to High Burial Costs

92AS1368E London KEYHAN in Persian 6 Aug 92 p 2

[Text] Due to the high cost of burials, some people are abandoning their dead in hospitals or in the Behesht-e Zahra Cemetery. The cost of burial at the Behest-e Zahra Cemetery is between 10,000 and 25,000 toman, which some families cannot afford. But if anyone wants to bury the dead in a defined plot, he must pay much more. The cost is not set and depends on how well the family of the deceased can bargain.

Some families pay 5 million toman to buy "private plots," which have a capacity of 25 double-decker graves.

Behesht-e Zahra has grown at a rate of several times the projected rate since the revolution. Now it has an agency with about 1,000 employees, including 60 "ritual washers" with a minimum salary of 24,000 toman.

Malnourished Children Comprise 32 Percent

92AS1368D London KEYHAN in Persian 6 Aug 92 p 3

[Text] Thirty-two percent of Iranian children under five years of age suffer from chronic malnutrition. Dr. Naser Kalantari, the director general of family and school health of the Ministry of Health and Treatment, who gave this statement to IRNA, added that if the population growth continues at the present rate (3.7 percent annually), this deficiency will be more critical.

He said: While in the developed countries of the world the childbearing age for women is between 20 and 35 years of age, Iranian women become pregnant from 15 to 50 years of age. In addition, families in developed countries have an average of two children, while the number of children in Iranian families, particularly in the lower strata of both urban society and rural communities, is much higher.

He said: One principle of the planned parenthood program in Iran is to try to restrict the childbearing age to between 18 and 35 years and bring the minimum time between two births to at least three years.

Concerning food for the increasing population, he said: "Every year, the demand for agricultural products increases by 2.5 percent." Dr. Kalantari said: "The Islamic Republic imports \$5 billion worth of foodstuff and agricultural products annually."

New Colleges, Medical Schools To Be Built

92AS1356G Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 6 Jul 92 p 2

[Text] Social Service—The Medical Science Universities Development Council has built five universities, teaching facilities, medical and paramedical colleges, converted one university to a medical sciences university, created five journeyman training programs, one expert training program, three guidance expert training programs, 22 specialist training programs, and three advanced specialist training programs in various medical, paramedical, nursing, and midwifery fields.

The Public Relations Office of the Ministry of Health, Treatment, and Medical Education reports that the Medical Science Universities Development Council has completed the following:

1. Final approval of the construction of the Gorgan Medical College affiliated with the Mazandaran Medical Sciences University.

2. Agreement to build an institute for higher welfare and rehabilitation sciences training affiliated with the National Welfare Organization, to train skilled manpower and to obtain the specialist cadres needed from the journeyman to the doctoral level.

3. Final agreement to build a paramedical training college at the Babol Medical Sciences University.

4. Final agreement to build the Shahed medical college.

5. Final agreement to build a paramedical training center at Hamadan Medical Sciences University.

6. Announcement of the agreement in principle to change the name of Rafsanjan Medical Sciences College to Rafsanjan Medical Sciences University.

Creation of Journeyman and Expert Training Programs

1. Creation of journeyman training programs in midwifery at Yasuj Medical Sciences University and Lorestan Medical Sciences College and an expert training program in midwifery at the Kashan Medical Sciences College.

2. Creation of a journeyman training program in laboratory sciences at the units of the Chalus, Babol, and Jajrud free Islamic universities.

Expert Guidance Training Programs

Approval to create expert guidance training programs in physiology, anatomy, and medical bacteriology at Emam Hoseyn Medical Sciences College affiliated with the General Staff of the Revolutionary Guard Corps.

Specialist Training Programs

1. The creation of specialist training programs in anesthesiology at the Babol Medical Sciences College, the Orumiyeh Medical Sciences University, and the Baqiyatollah Medical Center affiliated with the Emam Hoseyn Medical Sciences College.

2. The creation of a specialist training program in nuclear medicine at the Martyr Raja'i Hospital affiliated with the Iranian Medical Sciences University.

3. The creation of a specialist training program in internal medicine at the Yahya Nezhad and Martyr Beheshti hospitals.

4. The creation of a specialist training program in ophthalmology at the Kerman Medical Sciences University, the Commander of the Faithful Hospital affiliated with the Iranian Medical Sciences University, and the Qa'em and Imam Reza hospitals affiliated with the Mashhad Medical Sciences University.

5. The creation of a specialist training program in medical psychology at the Golestan hospital affiliated with the Ahvaz Medical Sciences University, the Martyr Beheshti Medical Psychology Complex affiliated with the Kerman Medical Sciences University, and the Mirza Kuchek Khan Hospital affiliated with the Gilan Medical Sciences University.

6. The creation of a specialist training program in pediatrics at the Pediatrics Department of the 17 Shahrivar Hospital affiliated with the Gilan Medical Sciences College.
7. The creation of a specialist training program in pediatric surgery at the His Holiness 'Ali Asghar Hospital affiliated with the Iranian Medical Sciences University.
8. The creation of a specialist training program in skin diseases at the Ahvaz and Kerman medical sciences universities.
9. The creation of a specialist training program in neurosurgery at Emam Khomeini (peace be upon him) Hospital affiliated with the Tabriz Medical Sciences University.
10. The creation of a specialist training program in radiology at the Zahedan Medical Sciences University.
11. The creation of a specialist training program in urology at Shafa 2 Hospital affiliated with the Kerman Medical Sciences University.
12. The creation of a specialist training program in orthopedics at Martyr Bahonar Hospital affiliated with the Kerman Medical Sciences University.
13. The creation of a specialist training program in pulmonary medicine at Emam Khomeini Hospital affiliated with the Tehran Medical Sciences University.
14. The creation of a specialist training program in heart and circulatory diseases at Dr. Shari'ati Hospital affiliated with the Tehran Medical Sciences University.

Creation of Advanced Specialist Training Programs

1. The approval of an advanced specialist training program in nephrology in the pediatrics department at the Pediatric Medical Center affiliated with the Tehran Medical Sciences University.
2. The approval of an advanced specialist training program in pulmonary medicine at Emam Khomeini Hospital affiliated with the Tehran Medical Sciences University.
3. Confirmation of the academic and educational competence of the Heart and Circulatory Surgery Department at Dr. Shari'ati Hospital for the purpose of training advanced specialist assistants in this field.

Curriculum for High Schools Revised

92AS1300K London KEYHAN in Persian 23 Jul 92 p 2

[Text] With the change in the educational fields in Iranian schools, courses on "economics" and "culture and literature" will be omitted starting this year, with the entry of the first group of third-year literature students.

This year, with the start of the academic year, for the first group of third-year students in literature and humanities, courses in economics and culture and literature will be omitted from the high school curriculum. The Ministry of Education announced last week: Changes have been made in the hours of courses and the content of the literature and humanities field, which will be implemented from Mehr [23 Sep-22 Oct]. Courses in psychology, economics, public affairs, trade, and statistics will also be removed from the literature and humanities curriculum. Instead, two hours per week of logic and one hour per week of philosophy will be taught to students. Also, next academic year, three hours of psychology, logic, and philosophy per week will be taught in the fourth year.

New Administrative Units To Be Created

92AS1356C Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 1 Jul 92 p 14

[Text] Shiraz—ETTELA'AT Correspondent—Based on a measure enacted by the National Supreme Administrative Council, in the two cities of Tehran and Shiraz complexes called "administrative villages" are to be created to centralize the administrative authorities.

This was announced to the press in an interview by Mr. Mohammad 'Ali Taqi-Jahromi, governor general of Fars Province.

He said: This will save time for administrative clients.

The governor general of Fars discussed his meeting with the exalted leader of the Islamic revolution His Holiness Ayatollah Khamene'i and the president of the republic. He said: "With his great knowledge of the situation in Fars Province and its characteristics, the exalted leader gave valuable guidance on how to alleviate the economic difficulties and continue the public unity in this province."

Likewise, Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani emphasized the need to expedite the implementation of infrastructure projects such as railroads, the Esfahan-Shiraz highway, electronic industries, and industrial investments in the various parts of Fars Province.

He added: "More than 400 billion rials in credit will be needed to build the Esfahan-Shiraz highway."

Continuing his remarks, Mr. Jahromi said: "With the president of the republic's agreement, in the next few months the problems of Fars Province will be placed before the Council of Ministers and studied."

At the conclusion of his talk, the governor general of Fars listed his future programs, which include fighting corruption and improper veiling, alleviating deprivation and backwardness in the province's deprived areas, preventing unregulated emigration and controlling the population, giving importance to education and training, developing the centers of higher education, filling the free time of youth and creating favorable conditions for their employment, giving importance to productive investment by the private sector, developing the tourist industry and building hotels, establishing commercial relations with the nations of the Persian Gulf and sending skilled and semiskilled workers to these nations, expediting projects to build grain storage facilities, and other things.

Tehran Taxi Fleet To Be Renovated

92AS1356E Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 4 Jul 92 p 2

[Text] Social Service—All of Tehran's unserviceable taxis will be renovated by the end of the year 1372 [20 Mar 1994].

Seyyed Jamal Hashemi-'Arab, executive director of the Tehran Taxi Organization, gave an exclusive interview to our correspondent in which he discussed this subject. Concerning the policies on renovating the Tehran taxi fleet, he said: The policy to renovate Tehran's taxi fleet has been implemented in three phases. The first phase involved the importation of 300 Peugeot 405s. Since this type of automobile had numerous problems such as expensive parts and the lack of sufficient durability, its addition to the Tehran taxi fleet was stopped.

Concerning the second phase of the renovation of Tehran's taxi fleet, Mr. Hashemi-'Arab said: "In this phase 3,000 Renault 21s, which were purchased from France by the SAIPA company, were added to the taxi fleet under a contract with the municipality of Tehran, and they are already transporting passengers within the city."

The executive director of the Tehran Taxi Organization said that the third phase of the renovation of Tehran's unserviceable taxis is the final one. He said: Beginning the first of next month, 3,000 Hyundai vehicles with the Excel system that can burn two kinds of fuel will be gradually added to the intracity fleet until the end of this year [20 Mar 1993].

He said: "These taxis will be given to taxi drivers whose automobiles are no longer in service as well as to those who intend to take up this work."

Residents of Yazd Hard Pressed for Water

92AS1300F London KEYHAN in Persian 23 Jul 92 p 2

[Text] In the hot desert city of Yazd, there is no water to be found, and people with pails in hand go from door to door searching for this vital substance. The Yazd Province Water Agency says: We have no water; do not come to us; speak about your problems via telephone to Nasim-e Sobh radio program and the governor general officials. The Yazd green area, which is very limited, is in poor shape from lack of water. The water and electricity officials of the region say that water should be extracted from deep wells. But in the meantime, they evade the preparation of a report on the main reasons for the drought. The employees of the Yazd water department believe that the water shortage problem will not even be resolved by mid-fall. Engineer Owlia, the general manager of the Yazd water agency, said: A number of wells have been shut off due to health problems, and the problems in the Yazd water organization causes the waste of a great deal of water.

Paper Views Recent Events in Mashhad

92AS1306A Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 22 Jun 92 p 15

[Text] In the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate

With the arrest and punishment of several of the perpetrators, some take the view that the recent incident in Mashhad may be seen as a closed episode, but some of the existing indications show that if officials and the public are not alert and if serious, effective, and fundamental steps are not taken in some areas, it is not that unlikely that this will be repeated elsewhere in another form.

The first question is, were these incidents avoidable? Were there plot-like plans previously existing to disrupt all three of these cities?

It is possible that some local officials, in their initial hurried reactions, being unaware of the dimensions of the incident,

attributed it to one group, an organization, or a premeditated plan, but subsequent research refutes the existence of any kind of recognized and coordinated group behind these incidents.

Today the true reality has been proved that no group or coordinated organization was behind these unfortunate incidents. Attributing them to saboteur minigroups and others not only fails to resolve a group of problems, exonerates no one, and does not conceal the shortcomings of this one and that one, but also repeating this point and attributing the incidents to saboteur minigroups can only serve to magnify them and suggest that some people have the power, influence and organization to organize incidents like this who not only have no power or influence, but also are in fact isolated.

Now, realizing that no foreign hand or group was involved in this, we ask, who were the perpetrators of the incident? Studies show that the initial gathering of the residents of Kuye Tollab was without any kind of political motivation, adventurism, or destructive objective. The dissatisfaction was brought about by the municipality's apparently discriminatory behavior towards landowners in the district where the incident took place. The people and the owners of small parcels of land wanted to know why they were being deprived of building permits and why their building projects were declared illegal on the pretext that there is an excess in the area. At the same time, a large landowner obtains permission to divide up his land and sell it in return for transferring some of his land to the municipality, and he is given promises of help to get building permits at the highest municipal decisionmaking levels.

The question is, first of all, did the municipality of Mashhad make the proper legal decision without discrimination in this regard? Second, if a logical and reasonable decision was made, to resolve the ambiguities and prove that there is no discrimination, has a complete explanation been given to the protestors, the people of the area and the city?

The experience of the difficult years of the Islamic revolution and the imposed war shows that the people will endure hardships and difficulties and that they will not tolerate discrimination and "capricious" official behavior. Some people may reason that there is no reason for an official to explain everything he does to the people. If we accept this illogical reasoning, we authorize by our own hand the separation of the people from the officials. An ordinary citizen has the right to know why construction is not permitted on his property, while his next door neighbor has this right. If there is a legal reason for this apparent discrimination, then what reason do we have for refusing to announce this reason on behalf of those who believe themselves to be right, thereby sowing the seeds of resentment in the hearts of the people because of harsh treatment, and making them pessimistic about government officials? If there is no legal reason that will be accepted in court for this behavior discriminating between individuals, the people must be given the right not to tolerate the discrimination.

We have now considered the implications of the emotionally explosive public situation in Kuye Tollab. Let us now consider what touched off the explosion. The people in the area wanted to meet with the mayor, but he refused. Instead, he sent someone else who exacerbated the tangible anger

and feelings of his people with his provocative remarks and who was faced with logical, polite, and at the same time, serious and quarrelsome protests from the citizens. It is a natural thing that others were also present who were not without a basic interest in the principle of the incident. However, the continuation of these harsh exchanges will lead to the point where neither side (whether the municipality's executive vice mayor or the residents seeking to solve their problems through protest) will have any control and others who have merely observed up until then will get involved and manage the scenario from then on.

Studies show that almost all of the initial protestors who had an interest in this episode withdrew as soon as they sensed that their logical protests were taking on an angry tone and that the action of the population took place without the participation of the initial protestors from the very beginning. From this point on the "age mix" of the crowd that marched with aroused feelings was much younger, and almost all of the eyewitnesses said they were between 15 and 25 years of age. In the course of the march a number of people left the crowd, and this shows that they had nothing to say to those who were continuing the march, which was gradually becoming rebellious and chaotic. In their stead, a number of people were added to the crowd who had been definitely yearning for something like this to happen. As yet no information has been published concerning the occupations and lives of the group that sought to create a commotion until the end of the march, but it is completely clear that this group of adventurers had nothing to lose. The chief mystery in the incident could be their lack of interest in anything absorbing or hopeful.

The involvement of a "younger age group" with an age of 15 to 25 years in this gathering is alarming. If we subtract the years of the Islamic revolution from the ages of this group, these people were between two and 12 years of age at the beginning of the Islamic revolution. Moreover, the proven absence of known saboteur groups and organizations in this crowd shows that the essence of rebellious activity can exist even in the absence of saboteur groups, and this is another warning.

The main point that seems serious in the midst of all this is the humiliation of police security and their absolute indifference to the idea of quelling the incident, which necessarily shows the "lack of homogeneity in the makeup of the police force" and lack of motivation of at least most of them, if not all of them, to carry out their responsibility.

The Mashhad incident, without involvement by savage minigroups, saw the disarmament of two magistrates. In a similar uprising, this time probably with participation and leadership by minigroups, how can one expect any resistance from these same people?

Understanding the true dimensions of this serious deficiency denotes the responsibility of the decisionmaking centers to compensate for the losses or revise their decisions, and it shows that such a means used to this extent is ineffective and even retrogressive and quite negative. Another point is the position and record of the judicial power, about which there is much to be said. Although the tug of war over the land in the Kuye Tollab area has roots going back three to four years, at least since the early months

of the year 1370 [21 Mar 1991-20 Mar 1992] the municipality of Mashhad has sought help from the judiciary by putting the issue before the public prosecutor.

The judiciary, in trying and punishing the perpetrators of recent incidents, acted quickly. This quick action is good, but was this the only place where the judiciary should have acted quickly? Did the judiciary act on its responsibility to cooperate with executive officials, especially to confront those who paved the way for future incidents by dividing up their land and erecting illegal structures? There is no clear answer establishing serious and effective measures, or at least it has not been published.

The Mashhad episode must be taken as a general lesson for all the cities, and it must serve as a reminder to all the decisionmaking centers about the seriousness of the "problem of emigration" and its disastrous effects and dimensions. The simultaneous emptying of the villages and swarming of populations to the cities causes illegal shantytowns to sprout like mushrooms on the outskirts of large and small cities. Thus people who in the villages are considered "productive manpower" in the villages in any case, lacking the necessary and serious motivation to remain in the villages, become "burdensome manpower," and because of their weak financial foundation, they must seek shelter on the outskirts of the cities.

The collision of the population concentrations in the cities and the rural areas, the disruption and disarray of the "nation's population structure" and following that the abandonment of a huge swarm of children and young people on the outskirts of cities, which do not even have a clear program for their own youth, have "exacerbated" the problem. The existence of schools operating in shifts in the large cities is considered an ordinary thing today. The same phenomenon means that the amount of time our children and youth spend in the schools is much shorter and therefore, to fill their time, they wander around, either at home, in the street, or in the neighborhood.

This spark and this incident once again bespeak the acute problem of youth and show that if something serious, effective, and comprehensive is not done to fill the time of young people and children, young people who could be "troubleshooters" will be "troublemakers," and whether we like it or not we will see the unwanted presence of hoodlums and ruffians in our own Islamic and revolutionary society.

Summary and Recommendation

The Mashhad incident has ended, but it appears quite logical that we should not leave this case open, and instead of taking rapid judicial action to punish the rest of the perpetrators of this incident, a comprehensive study should be done by a committed group of skilled psychologists and sociologists. This will identify the point of deviation for a group of people who feel satisfaction and peace of mind by breaking the windows of a bank, plundering a store and setting fire to a bus. Did these people receive the necessary training at home, at school and in the mosque? It is most necessary and vital for our officials and decisionmaking centers to find answers to these kinds of questions so they will be able to understand how the effects and consequences to come tomorrow from today's "macro planning" will appear.

Moreover, it is necessary to make a serious and comprehensive study to identify and make known those who are primarily at fault, the officials and people whose shortcomings and improper decisions, directly or indirectly, caused incidents like the ones that occurred in Shiraz, Arak, and Mashhad, and they must be dealt with in accordance with their errors, shortcomings and faults.

It would not be just to discuss the Mashhad incident without thinking about how we can put an end to this sad episode. The sincere people, the hezbollah forces and the mobilization brought this incident to an end. The question is, however, why didn't they act at the outset, instead of silently witnessing these chilling scenes? There are many reasons for the pregnant silence of the hezbollahs and the mobilization people, but the main reason, which might be less evident, is the portrayal of the people and the hezbollah as "irresponsible people." The method of ending the Mashhad incident proved that the true officials of the government are the people themselves and the sincere and loyal hezbollah and mobilization forces, and if we push them out of public life by calling them "irresponsible," definitely no one will be able to do anything from then on. It is necessary once more for us to turn to these same "irresponsible individuals," who are the real owners of the revolution and the nation and invite them to get involved in public life and act "responsibly" to save and preserve something that is their own.

Tabriz Plant Begins Production of 45 HP Tractors

92AS1356F Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 4 Jul 92 p 4

[Text] Tabriz—ETTELA'AT Correspondent—The production line to build 45 HP steam tractors was started in Tabriz in the presence of Engineer Nezhad-Hoseynian, minister of heavy industries, at the Iran Tractor Complex in Tabriz. Likewise the exercise complex at Iran Tractor was opened in the presence of the minister of heavy industries. At ceremonies for this purpose attended by the governor general of East Azarbaijan Province and several Majles deputies, the executive director of the Iran Tractor Company announced that when this line goes into operation, with its capacity to produce 5,000 units annually, the needs of farmers for small tractors will be met.

He added: "In the first phase of producing 45 HP tractors, 43 percent of the parts will be procured domestically, and after three years 70 percent of the parts will be produced domestically."

He noted: "This year 14,000 tractors with various power ratings will be produced in the factories of the Iran Tractor Company." Concerning the company's exercise complex, he said: "The exercise complex at the tractor factory was built at a cost of 90 million tomans, and it has 8,200 square meters of foundation with multipurpose rooms, an indoor pool, soccer and track fields and a yard."

Payam-e Nur University Classes To Begin in Fall

92AS1356H Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 6 Jul 92 p 13

[Text] Arak—With the admission of 65 students in the field of government management, Payam-e Nur University of Khomein will begin its educational activities at the beginning of the coming academic year.

For the second term of the 1371-1372 [1992-1993] academic year, in addition to the field of government management, this university will also accept 260 students in the two fields of educational sciences and Persian literature.

An official at Payam-e Nur University of Khomein gave an interview to the central news unit in which he noted that this year this university will begin operating at a temporary location, and after 600 million rials in credit are drawn and spent, the university building will be ready for use by next year.

In conclusion, he praised the public for its help building Payam-e Nur University of Khomein. He said: In addition to the land donated by well-wishers, the teachers of Khomein donated one day of their salaries for the construction of this university, and six million rials was also donated by well-wishing individuals.

Naft Shahr Oil Facilities Become Operational

92AS1428E Tehran KEYHAN-E HAVAT in Persian
22 Jul 92 p 10

[Text] Naft Shahr (Kermanshah) 23 Tir/14 Jul—In ceremonies attended by Gholam Reza Aqazadeh-Kho'i, minister of petroleum, the utilization of Naft Shahr's reconstructed oil installations began in the province of Kermanshah.

The correspondent from the newspaper JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI reports that the pump house and the oil wells of Naft Shahr, which were rebuilt and put into operation in 14 months by engineers, specialists, and exploration and production managers for pipelines and communications in the National Drilling Company, include six wells and 230 km of pipe. When these installations begin operating 15,000 barrels of crude oil will be produced daily and taken by pipeline to the Kermanshah refinery.

To implement this industrial project, which was completely destroyed during the imposed war, 10 billion rials in credits and more than \$9 million in foreign exchange credits were spent.

Several deputy ministers of petroleum, the deputy governor general for political affairs and security, and several officials and workers of the Kermanshah Province Oil Company were present when the Naft Shahr installations and pump house were put into operation.

Aqazadeh-Koh'i, minister of petroleum, gave a talk as these wells were being turned on. He praised the oil company's experts and specialists who played a part in the reconstruction and new construction of these oil installations. He said: With the start-up of two more wells in the month of Shahrivar this year [23 Sep-22 Oct], Naft Shahr's oil production will increased to 20,000 barrels per day.

The minister of petroleum noted that in the Naft Shahr border area there are also large natural gas reserves, and he expressed the hope that the existing oil and gas in this area will be used to meet the needs of the zealous people in the western part of the country.

He said: During the time when the Naft Shahr oil facilities were being put into operation, workers of the National Oil Company and the army of the Islamic Republic of Iran presented 33 martyrs and wounded people to the Islamic revolution, and more than 2.6 million mines and undetonated rounds have also been found and disarmed by the brothers in the army in the aforementioned area.

It is worth mentioning that during the eight years of sacred defense the oil installations in the municipality of Naft Shahr were occupied by Iraqi forces, and as they were evacuating this area Iraqi soldiers completely destroyed all the existing installations and wells in this area.

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